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SENATE BILL 5544

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State of Washington                      54th Legislature                      1995 Regular Session

By Senators Owen, Rinehart, Spanel, Haugen, C. Anderson and Fraser

Read first time 01/26/95. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

1            AN ACT Relating to ocean resources; and amending RCW 43.143.010.

2    BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

3            **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.143.010 and 1989 1st ex.s. c 2 s 9 are each amended  
4 to read as follows:

5            (1) The purpose of this chapter is to articulate policies and  
6 establish guidelines for the exercise of state and local management  
7 authority over Washington's coastal waters, seabed, and shorelines.

8            (2) There shall be no leasing of Washington's tidal or submerged  
9 lands extending from mean high tide seaward three miles along the  
10 Washington coast from Cape Flattery south to Cape Disappointment, nor  
11 in Grays Harbor, Willapa Bay, and the Columbia river downstream from  
12 the Longview bridge, for purposes of oil or gas exploration,  
13 development, or production (~~(until at least July 1, 1995. During the~~  
14 ~~1995 legislative session, the legislature shall determine whether the~~  
15 ~~moratorium on leasing should be extended past July 1, 1995. This~~  
16 ~~determination shall be based on the information available at that time,~~  
17 ~~including the analysis described in RCW 43.143.040. If the legislature~~  
18 ~~does not extend the moratorium on leasing, the moratorium will end on~~  
19 ~~July 1, 1995)).~~ At any time that oil or gas leasing, exploration, and

1 development are allowed to occur, these activities shall be required to  
2 meet or exceed the standards and criteria contained in RCW 43.143.030.

3 (3) When conflicts arise among uses and activities, priority shall  
4 be given to resource uses and activities that will not adversely impact  
5 renewable resources over uses which are likely to have an adverse  
6 impact on renewable resources.

7 (4) It is the policy of the state of Washington to actively  
8 encourage the conservation of liquid fossil fuels, and to explore  
9 available methods of encouraging such conservation.

10 (5) It is not currently the intent of the legislature to include  
11 recreational uses or currently existing commercial uses involving  
12 fishing or other renewable marine or ocean resources within the uses  
13 and activities which must meet the planning and review criteria set  
14 forth in RCW 43.143.030. It is not the intent of the legislature,  
15 however, to permanently exclude these uses from the requirements of RCW  
16 43.143.030. If information becomes available which indicates that such  
17 uses should reasonably be covered by the requirements of RCW  
18 43.143.030, the permitting government or agency may require compliance  
19 with those requirements, and appeals of that decision shall be handled  
20 through the established appeals procedure for that permit or approval.

21 (6) The state shall participate in federal ocean and marine  
22 resource decisions to the fullest extent possible to ensure that the  
23 decisions are consistent with the state's policy concerning the use of  
24 those resources.

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